P800160-1799

R 898

United States Senate

DEC 3 [illegible]

To ensure proper handling please return all correspondence TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Bobbie Davis

Respectfully referred to:

Congressional Liaison
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

ACTION is assigned to: Pat R.

Please respond to the attached inquiry in duplicate and return the enclosure. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bill Brock U.S.S.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY HT DATE 8/15/97
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Re: [illegible] death sentence imposed upon [illegible] Jeung by the South Korean government.

Encl: Cathedral Leaders

(2)

BD

1980 NOV 25 AM 10:28

November, 1980

Dear Senator Proxmire,

It is shocking to learn of the September 17th death sentence for internationally well-known Korean democratic leader, Kim Dae Jung and the heavy sentences of 23 other Korean human rights leaders.

After all the blood shed in the Korean War for democracy in that land, and after 30 years of heavy U.S. military and economic assistance toward Korean development, I consider it a travesty that South Korea is presently in the hands of a brutal military government which has throttled all voices for democracy.

Even more is the tragedy that the U.S. government continues massive military and economic aid to Korea, supports 40,000 U.S. troops there, and barely seems phased when Korea's most popular democratic leader receives the death sentence after a trial on charges that even the State Department said were "far-fetched".

I urge you to do all in your power to turn U.S. foreign policy in Korea back toward freedom and democracy for the Korean people. Without a concrete underpinning of popular support, any South Korean government is a threat to peace inside Korea and to us who are asked to protect her.

A first, necessary step would be a strong move by the U.S. to register its dismay over the sentences in the Kim Dae Jung case. I suggest that you support H. Con Res 437 (Senate: S.Con Res 132) - the Bonker Resolution on South Korea which urges the Government of South Korea to fulfill its stated commitments to the democratization of South Korea and to commute the death sentence of Kim Dae Jung.

Sincerely,

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